

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUANDA 00283 071029Z

20

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 MC-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01

/141 W

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R 061700Z MAY 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2586

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 0283

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PFOR MILI AO PO

SUBJECT: PORTUGAL TO STEP UP MILITARY EFFORT IN ANGOLA

REF: LUANDA 0249

1. ACCORDING TO A VARIETY OF SOURCES IN OR CLOSE TO MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT, NEW PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO STEP UP MILITARY EFFORT IN ANGOLA. PRESUMPTION IS LISBON JUNTA WISHES TO DRAMATIZE TO REBELS NEED TO HEED CALL TO CEASE HOSTILITIES AND RETURN TO POLITICAL FRAY INSTEAD. (UNCLEAR WHETHER ALLEGED MILITARY EFFORT WOULD INCLUDE GUINEA AND MOZAMBIQUE.)

2. ONE OF MAJOR COMPLAINTS OF MOVEMENT HAS BEEN POOR QUALITY OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT; JUNTA SUPPOSEDLY HAS ACCEPTED THIS AND INTENDS TO PRESS FOR EARLY MODERNIZATION OF PORTUGAL'S ARSENAL.

3. AS COROLLARY TO THIS IS NOTION PORTUGAL'S ALLIES (READ US) MAY NOW BE DISPOSED TO SUPPLY WEAPONRY NEEDED TO DO JOB PROPERLY.

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PAGE 02 LUANDA 00283 071029Z

ARGUMENT OFFERED IS THAT OUR ARMS EMBARGO WAS LINKED TO OUR

INSISTENCE THAT PORTUGAL ENDORSE SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE
OVERSEAS. NOW PORTUGAL HAS DONE SO, REASON FOR ARMS EMBARGO
HAS CEASED TO EXIST.

4. SOURCES INCLUDE RECENTLY DISCHARGED MIDDLE GRADE ARMY
OFFICERS. SENIOR CIVIL SERVANT, AND FORMER PAF COMMANDER IN
ANGOLA WHO WAS DISMISSED BY JUNTA MAY 4.
BRIGGS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: POLICIES, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, ARMS, UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE, EMBARGOES, SELFDETERMINATION, MILITARY PLANS
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